മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എ. രാഘവൻ : കാലണ ഇന്ന ഞാൻ ചിലവാക്കിയാൽ നാളെ കുസ്സ്യാനിയാണ്. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള സംഗതികൊണ്ട് ഈ സമുദായത്തിൽപെട്ട അധികം പേരും മറ്റ സമുദായങ്ങളിലും മിസ്റ്റർ ജേക്കബ്ബിന്റെ സമുദായത്തിൽതന്നെയും ലയിച്ചുപോയി. അങ്ങിനെയുള്ള ഒരു സമുദായത്തിന്റെ പ്രാതിനിദ്ധ്യം വഹിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് പാവപ്പെട്ട ആദിമ സ്ഥിതിയിൽ കിടക്കുന്ന സമുദായക്കാക്ക് എന്തെങ്കിലും സഹായം ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടപ്പോൾ അതു സാധിച്ചു കൊടുത്തുകൂടാ എന്ന പറയുന്നതു് ഒരു മാതിരി നന്ദികേടും ആനപ്പുറത്തിരുന്ന വേലി പൊളിക്കുന്ന ഏർപ്പാടും ആണെന്നാണ് ഞാൻ പറയുന്നതു്. എനിക്കും നാളെ കുസ്സ്യിയസമുദായത്തിലൊ മുഹമ്മദിയസമുദായത്തിലൊ ചേരുന്ന അഭിമാനം കൊള്ളാം. എനിക്കതിനു സ്വാതന്ത്ര്യമുണ്ട്. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മന്ത്രിയോടു് ഒരിക്കൽകൂടി അപേക്ഷിക്കുന്നതു് ഞങ്ങളുടെ സമുദായത്തിന്റെ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസകാര്യത്തിൽ പ്രത്യേകം ഒരു ശ്രദ്ധവെച്ച് യാതൊരു ഒഴികഴിവും പറയാതെ backward communities-ൽപെട്ട അന്യ സമുദായക്കാരും തങ്ങൾക്കും കിട്ടണമെന്ന പറഞ്ഞവരും എന്നുള്ള ഒഴികഴിവുകൾ പറയാതെ എന്റെ സമുദായത്തിന്റെ കാര്യം ഒന്നുകൂടി ആലോചിക്കുമെന്നാണ്. സർ, ബാക്ക വേർഡ് കമ്മ്യൂണിറ്റീസിൽപെട്ട മറ്റ സമുദായങ്ങളിൽ വിദ്യാഭ്യാസം സിദ്ധിച്ചവരുടെ എണ്ണം നോക്കിയാൽ അറിയാം വിദ്യാഭ്യാസത്തിൽ ഞങ്ങളുടെ നില എന്താണെന്നുള്ളതു്. ഈഴവർ, എഴുത്തശ്ശന്മാർ എന്നിവരെപോലെ ഞങ്ങളുടെ സമുദായത്തെ പരിഗണിക്കരുതു്. മറ്റ സമുദായക്കാർ വരുകയാണെങ്കിൽ അപ്പോൾ അവരോടു് ശരിയായ ന്യായം പറയുവാൻ സാധിക്കും. അതുകൊണ്ട് ഒന്നുകൂടി ബഹുമാനപ്പെട്ട മന്ത്രി അവർകൾ ഞങ്ങളുടെ സമുദായത്തിന്റെ കാര്യത്തിൽ ശ്രദ്ധവെക്കണമെന്നപേക്ഷിച്ചുകൊണ്ട് ഞാൻ ഈ പ്രമേയം സഭയുടെ അനുവാദത്തോടുകൂടി പിൻവലിച്ചുകൊള്ളുന്നു.

Resolution, by leave, withdrawn

(3) Houses for Ministers

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* Mr. President, I move that "this Council recommends to Government that houses necessary to house all the Ministers be acquired by the Government".

Sir, a certain number of Ministers for Cochin has become a necessity. We are now at 4 whether it is necessary or not, we are on the onward move. Necessarily, therefore, more than 4 will be necessary, unless, of course, in the onward move, intelligence, patriotism and consideration for the masses will be evinced by the Ministry makers reducing the number of the present Ministry to 3 when more departments also are transferred. Unless that contingency arises, we have necessarily to go on to number 5 at least. Now, in this Council, during the Legislative session meetings of 1122 in all the three meetings, questions were put and answered about the housing arrangements of our representatives, the Ministers. One question answered has brought out the information that the only house possessed by the Government as its property to house one of its Ministers has cost by way of acquisition 58,952 rupees. That is, question No. 102 answered in the Legislative Session meeting of Vrischigam 1122.

Additional amounts upon that had to be spent for improvements. So we have got a good house to house one of our Ministers. As far as our other 3 esteemed friends are concerned, they are housed in rented buildings, a position which is most unbecoming of the Ministers of a State like Cochin. The Ministers of our country must live in Government houses. The Government house occupied by the Hon'ble Minister so and so must be the sign board and not Kunhalu's house or Pilla's house occupid by the Minister for Works or Minister for something else. I submit, therefore, that instead of having these rented buildings, which have a taint, a bad taint about it, our Ministers must be housed in Government buildings. Unless spare palaces are available, which I believe are not available, necessarily houses becoming of our Ministers will have to be acquired. If houses are not available for acquisition, sites will have to be acquired and construction will have to be made. In short our Ministers must be housed properly. But don't make the mistake that I am for that lavish furnishing which is done with about 30,000 and more of the tax-payers' money for three of the four ministers.

Mr. Parambi Lonappen *(Irinjalakkuda):* Not without furniture ?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri):* That is furniture. This is furniture and there are furniture and furniture. Furniture as becomes the Ministers of Cochin must be had. Nothing more, nothing less.

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Mr. P. K. Dewer *(Nominated)*: What is the standard ?

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, standard will be known, when standard men occupy those places. I was submitting, Sir, that they must be housed in proper buildings. That is not the only reason for the resolution. Another question answered has brought out the information that one of our Ministers is housed in a building which costs by way of rent, 3,600 rupees to the Treasury per annum. Another Minister equally paid, doing the same quantum of work though in other portfolios, costs only 600 rupees in place of Rs. 3,600. And yet there is another Minister, the rent of whose house has not been settled. That is the answer to question No. 138 of the Legislative Session. I do not know whether subsequent to that date, it has been settled.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister for Food and Education)*: Unsettled conditions.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, it looks like that. His face says so. With regard to the house, Sir, it is stated that the rent has not been fixed. Information through another question has also been given that some Government money has been spent upon it and as to its return to the Exchequer, it has been stated in answer to another question that the Government have arranged with the owner of the house who that owner is none knows, who has to fix the rent to suit the expenditure incurred by the Government for improving that building. So with the exception of that one house, acquired, equipped and furnished by the Government and made available for use by one of the ministers, whoever it may be, we are put to the necessity of having three more houses unless of course the ministry will be wise enough to reduce the number by to-morrow evening. Unless you are going to reduce the number of the present Ministry, you may have to go in for the 5th house also. That is the best thing instead of paying this high rent, objectionably high rent. I do not know why the Government pays 300 rupees per month for a building required for the Government unless it be, a case of favouring the man who gets this 300 rupees per mensem. I cannot find any justification for the Government of Cochin paying 300 rupees rent for a house. There are provisions here, Sir, whereby you can fix its rent. And if you have not thus far done so, it bespeaks either your deliberate intension to pay a particular man a fat amount in the shape of rent or your want of consideration for the tax-payers' money. In either case, it is not good. It is even criminal. But the whole question can be solved by acquiring those sites, those buildings. I am not concerned with which buildings you acquire. I am concerned only with the acquisition of proper buildings for the occupation of the Ministers from time to time. And it is cheaper to go in for acquisition. It will be certainly cheaper than paying this high rates of rent. I see a very intimate friend of mine shaking his head when I said that it is cheaper. Well, if that shaking of the head indicates that it is not cheaper, even then I will press that the acquisition must be had. Our Ministers should not live in rented houses. Our Government should not occupy buildings belonging to its subjects, because each one of our Ministers is our Government. The Government should not be a tenant of a subject, a lessee under a subject. Therefore, to keep up the prestige of the Ministers, to save the money of the Exchequer and the tax-payer and according to me to have a cheaper bargain, acquisition must be had. That is the object of this motion. I commend this for the very serious consideration of the House and I pray, Sir, irrespective of the fencing arrangements and the discilpine of parties, this case may be considered on its merits.

Mr. T. Francis *(Womens-Ernakulam)*: On a point of information, Sir. If I remember correct, Sir George Boag, the then President of this House said that the Government have already decided to have houses for the Ministers.

റാവുസാഹിബ് കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: ഗവൺമെണ്ട് ഡിസൈഡു ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. പക്ഷെ, അതു് ഇന്നപ്പോൾ വേണമെന്നമാത്രം തീർച്ചയാക്കീട്ടില്ല.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Minister Food and Education)*: It is all a question of finance, Sir.

Mrs. T. Francis *(Womens-Ernakulam)*: I support this resolution. I think it is becoming of the Government of Cochin to have houses for their Ministers and I think at the present time, it will be more so. You are going to reclaim some place for the 70 ft. road. That side and also on the side of the Shanmukham Road, buildings can easily be had to house our Ministers.

റാവു സാഹിബ് കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: ഇതിനെക്കുറിച്ചു ഗവൺമെണ്ടിനു ഉദ്ദേശം ഇല്ലാതെയില്ല. ഇപ്പോൾത്തന്നെ ചെയ്യണമെന്നു ഉദ്ദേശിക്കുന്നില്ലെന്നു മാത്രമേയുള്ളു.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. കുമാരനെഴുത്തച്ഛൻ: എന്താണ് കാരണം?

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റാവു സാഹിബ്ബ് കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: കാരണം പണത്തിന്റെ കുറവുതന്നെ. ഇതിൽ കൂടുതലൊന്നും ഇതിനെക്കുറിച്ചു പറയാനില്ല.

Resolution, by leave, withdrawn

(4) Building for the members of the Council

Mr. P. K. Paul *(Chalakkudi)*: I move the resolution standing in my name, No. 11 which runs as follows.—This Council recommends to Government that a decent building be constructed and equipped with modern amenities at the close proximity of the Legislative Council Hall to house the representatives of the people of Cochin.

The hardships and inconveniences experienced by the Hon'ble members of this House are too well-known to require any further reiteration at my hands. The construction of a decent building at the close proximity of this Council Hall is an imperative necessity which cannot be put off to any further date. There are identical resolutions on the subject standing in the name of many Members and there is resolution No. 20 standing in the name of the Hon'ble Member, Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan. I may point out to the buildings at the close proximity, and ask why not we have the next eastern compound which was given to the Y. M. C. A. It is a nice place and it can be acquired and a decent building constructed. It will be well, I believe. It is to maintain the prestige and status of the Government that I demand that a decent building, equipped with modern amenities be provided at the earliest possible opportunity. Of course, there will be no opposition from any side. We do not want, as many believe, to be put up at such palatial buildings as the Hon'ble Ministers are living. They should at least be equipped with the necessary modern amenities befitting the status of the representitives of the people of Cochin. I commend this resolution for the acceptance of the House.

Mr. K. T. Achuthan *(Mukundapuram-Ezhuvas)*: Sir, I also second the resolution. At least a move in that line may be made. We shall be satisfied if a move in that direction is made. The present T. B. where we are put up seems to be very inconvenient with so many other difficulties. And as we are put up there, the public suffer. So many people are coming there and they are driven away because we are there. Moreover, it is not convenient also. So Government may move in that line and see that in the near future proper buildings with a good number of rooms for housing these Members may be taken up. I second it.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Sir, I support this resolution and in this connection as pointed out by the Hon'ble Mover, I invite the attention of this House to resolution No. 20 standing in my name reading:—

"This Council recommends to Government that the site adjoining the Legislative Council buildings be acquired by the Government and self contained set of rooms be constructed for the use of members of the Council during Council days."

I think there is a murderous attack upon the wording of my resolution, it is not printed as I sent it up. Some words have been changed. Does not matter.

This Council, Sir, is more than 22 years old. The child has attained majority and grown further. The question of housing the child has not been—rather the wishes of this House have not been in any seriousness, taken up by the Government. This matter used to be agitated in this Council, pressed before this House, almost every year in the early days with the result that, first we began with the late Chief Justice Mr. Verghese's house, then passed on to one of the house which passed by the name of M. L. C. Quarters and later still we had for one or two meetings a building close by here to be occupied by members of Council. That of course, is not available for this Budget Session.

That means, the members who come from outside, who have no habitation of their own here, are tossed from wall to wall, from building to building and at times, from one portion of the air to another portion. This is the sort of consideration shown to persons who come here to do work for the Government, of the Government and on behalf of the people. Of course, to expect those who sent us here to house us is too much. Therefore, those who want us here will certainly provide us with accommodation and especially in the Council, the meetings whereof hereafter to be had, living close to the Legislative Council Hall will be useful.

At least for a few who want, to turn out honest work it will be useful may though foolishly want. It is necessary for some members of this Council to do some honest, sincere work in this Council. For the benefit of such of them and for the members who have no habitation of their

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